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DC Statewide Independent Living Council  
1125 15<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005-2726

## DC Statewide Independent Living Council Meeting Minutes – November 20, 2014

Thursday, January 29, 2015

### Attendees:

#### District of Columbia Statewide Independent Council Board Members

Elver Ariza-Silva, Acting Chair  
Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary  
Richard Simms (via phone)  
Catherine Dillahunt, Treasurer (via phone)  
Shileta L. Gorham, Member  
Yvonne Smith, Member  
Thomas Mangrum, Member  
Dahlia G. Johnson, Administrative Assistant, SILC

#### Rehabilitation Services Administrations (RSA)

Andrew Reese, Deputy Director, RSA  
Darnise Henry Bush, DC-RSA Program Liaison

#### DDS SODA

Allison White, DDS SODA

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 by Marsha Thompson, SILC Secretary. Each member introduced themselves.

### MINUTES

The minutes were read by Marsha Thompson, approved and second as read.

## **MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT**

(Marsha) It is imperative that we get people on the Board that are active and willing to work. It's important that we get the applications out now, because we are in the middle of a mayoral transition. The new mayor takes office on January 2, 2015, and we are not sure who will be leaving or who will be staying in their present positions. It is important that we get these applications, so that whoever is in that role can quickly review the applications and forward the names onto the Mayor for approval and have the Executive Order written appointing these individuals to the Board.

Marsha feels the Board should recruit people in before we get people to resign. Darnise said she had 4 new applicants including the one that Dahlia has.

(Darnise) The Office of Boards and Commission is holding applications for Boards pending the Mayoral transition. However, Andy and DDS have informed OBC of the importance of fully vetted Councils to Agency service delivery. The two Councils (SRC and SILC) risk noncompliance by waiting until the Mayoral transition is completed. Mr. Simms said that he would have 4 applicants and that Dahlia should forward the electronic applications by COB today.

Andy suggested that SILC first get letters of resignation from members non active board members. Dahlia and Darnise will contact those members for letters of resignations while the new member applications are being gathered for OBC processing. This should stop the SILC from getting caught in the huge backlog where new members are fully vetted,

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constituted and resigning members have not been processed. The OBC has agreed to work closely with us during the Mayoral Transition.

Darnise said she spoke with Mr. Cheeks at the Office of Boards and Commission, and he said that letters of resignations are not needed for Members' whose term has\* expired. There is space for five new members.

### Membership Stipend

Person that are not employed, receive a stipend. It is a DDS Policy to provide the stipend.

Andy said he would check on the regulations regarding the stipend for persons employed.

### New Member Training & Orientation

The OBC is working closely with us and everyone is on the same page so the SILC should be able to have 4 – 6 hour training and orientation at our first meeting in January, 2015. It should include the roles and responsibilities of the SILC and the local and federal guidelines for the Council. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 22, 2015. Darnise suggested that a members from OBC come and speak to the Board. Mr. Simms made a suggestion that we invite Mr. Felipe Lulli, Federal RSA Representative to come and speak with the Council in person.

A motion was made to change the first SILC meeting/training date to January 29, 2015. Members agreed. Motion passed.

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### 704 Comments Due – November 25, 2014

Darnise asked members to submit their comments regarding the 704, as soon as possible.

### CSNA REPORT

Andy informed the Council, that the report will be ready on December 2, 2014, and he will send a copy via email. There will be a public presentation on January 19, 2015, from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. on CSNA. The Council should plan to attend.

### SILC Resource Plan – 2015

Marsha reminded the members that this is our budgetary need for 2015. Member's stipend will be added in to this plan.

We never identified a paid fiscal agent, since we are not a 501C3; we want to get this settled. Marsha requested that SILC members think as members of the community and consider how the SILC could advocate and help the community. Then think of the SILC Resource Plan as a way to provide that help. Marsha suggested that the resource plan from last year be reviewed to see what we can do differently and include the cost within that cap. SILC agreed to meet an hour before or after the January 19, 2015 CSNA Presentation to put their thoughts and ideas on paper and finalize the resource plan. She asked that everyone review the State Plan for background.

### SILC Congress

The SILC Congress will be held in San Diego, January 17-20, 2014. There were a few members who expressed an interest in attending. It was decided to send an email to all members with the follow questions:

1. How would your participation benefit the local/ national committee?
2. Why do you want to attend?
3. How would you disseminate the information?

Elver informs the members about an upcoming Post-Secondary Education, January 8, 2015, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and suggested that Ms. Dillahunt might want to participate. Dahlia will mail her the information.

### New Business

Shileta, stated the DCCIL has partnered with DCPS, working with high school seniors who are in school program. She said they go out with them twice a week, and teach them IL skills that they will need after high school and beyond.

Marsha reminded the Board that it is open season, for those of us, who know people who do not have affordable health care coverage; they can contact the DC Health Link to sign up for health insurance.

Marsha informed the Board that she and Rebecca Salon are members of the Consumer Advisory Council, at the University Center for Excellence and Development to Disabilities. She said they are now writing a paper on employment for persons with disabilities for persons with disabilities. They are tracking the Mayor's Order. She said as she gets copies of the draft she will share them with the Board, so that they can get further input from this body that will support the Consumer Advisory Council.

### School Talk Conference

Elver was a presenter at the School Talk Conference. He was very excited about the turnout for the two day conference. He said they were targeting families, and schools. Once the families found out there are resources, they seemed very happy. I think the conference was a success. It is geared to moving people to full independence.

The Mayor's Order is floating around the Wilson Building now. When she gets copies of the draft she will share them with the Board.

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### Announcements

- Thomas announced that he would be attending the TASH Conference
- The meeting date was changed to January 29, 2015

### Adjourned

The meeting adjourned at 2:00

DRAFT